

129 Survive O'Hare Collision

It Was Matter Of 'Seconds'

CHICAGO (AP) — Two airliners carrying 138 persons collided on a fog-shrouded runway at O'Hare International Airport, killing nine persons in Chicago's second air tragedy in two weeks.

The collision late Wednesday involved a North Central Airlines jet with 45 persons aboard and a Delta Airlines Convair 880 with 86 passengers and a crew of seven.

The Cook County morgue

said the nine who died were North Central passengers.

One Delta passenger said after the accident that "two seconds could have made the difference in all our lives."

The crash occurred as the

North Central DC9 — flight 575 to Madison, Wis., and Duluth and International Falls, Minn. — was taking off. The plane clipped the tail of the Delta craft, which was taxiing to a holding area after a flight from

West Palm Beach and Tampa, Fla.

"There was a jolt," said Roy Ritter, 60, of Rockford, Ill., who was aboard the Delta plane. "After we slid down the emergency chute we saw the tail

section of our plane 200 feet from the rest of it.

"We didn't feel the jolt too much, but I guess the people in back really did."

Two passengers aboard the Delta plane were injured, neither seriously.

It was Ritter's first time in an airplane.

"If the guy in the other plane had been two seconds earlier we would have been done for," he said.

Thirteen persons aboard the North Central jet were admitted to a hospital and 19 other passengers and a crew of four were unhurt.

Vincent Maloney, chief air traffic controller at O'Hare, said that visibility was a quarter of a mile at the time of the accident. He said many airlines feel such visibility is adequate.

The airport was shut down for 55 minutes after the crash. Earlier in the day, the fog had forced the airport to restrict air traffic to outgoing flights.

Raymond Higgins, 53, a former state senator from Minnesota and a North Central passenger, said the takeoff seemed smooth until the plane became airborne, then "the landing gear hit the tail (of the second plane) and knocked us out of the air."

He said the plane pancaked to the ground and he jumped four feet to the ground from an exit door.

Raymond Ojakangas, 40, who was aboard the plane with his son, Gregory, said he grabbed the 13-year-old's hand and crawled out of the plane.

"We came to a stop... The plane filled with smoke... We headed for the front, crawling on our hands and knees to try and get a breath of air and a voice said, 'Keep coming forward and keep low.'"

He said the plane burst into flames as he and his son ran from the jet.

Federal Aviation Adminis-

Survivor Was On Way To This Area

One of the survivors of the Chicago plane crash was a Florida youth on his way to the Twin Cities area to visit relatives.

Mark Helms, 16, of Winterhaven, Fla., was interviewed over a Chicago radio station Wednesday night after he escaped from the Delta 880 plane that was hit by the North Central jet. Helms described his experiences aboard the Delta plane that was arriving at O'Hare airport from Tampa, Fla.

He was not reported among the injured.

tration and National Transportation Safety Board spokesmen said each agency was sending a team to investigate the accident.

It was the second commercial airplane crash in two weeks in Chicago.

On Dec. 8, a United Air Lines jet crashed, killing 45, as it at-

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City of St. Joseph rubbish collection scheduled for Friday, 22, will be picked up Friday morning. Monday's rubbish will be picked up Tuesday.

Adv.



ONE HAPPY LADY: Pat Helgeson, 21, a St. Mary's, Ind., college student from Evansville, Wis., smiles at Chicago's Resurrection Hospital, Wednesday night. Miss Helgeson survived the North Central Airlines DC-9 crash at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, which claimed 9 lives. (AP Wirephoto)

Long Wait Gets Longer For Survivor

CHICAGO (AP) — Pat Helgeson sat in the terminal at O'Hare International Airport staring glumly out the huge plate-glass windows, hoping the fog would lift so she could go home.

The fog had socked in the area for most of the day Wednesday, bringing the world's busiest airport to a virtual standstill.

The 21-year-old senior at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind., knew that flying standby was a risky business and that she might not get on a flight because of the Christmas crowds which traditionally jam the airport.

After two flights she had hoped to get on had been canceled because of the inclement weather, she wondered whether she would get to her home in Evansville, Wis. for the Christmas holidays.

But she thought her luck had changed when the fog lifted slightly, activity at the airport began to pick up, and she managed to get a seat on North Central Flight 575 to Madison, Wis.

From Madison, the DC9 was bound for Duluth and International Falls, Minn.

But it never left the fog-shrouded airport. The plane crashed on takeoff after clipping a taxiing plane, killing 9 of the 48 persons aboard. Thirteen were hospitalized — including Miss Helgeson.

"The plane just didn't take off," she said. "Suddenly there was a jolt but no one got thrown around."

"A guy sitting next to me in the front part of the plane said, 'Take my hand and let's get out of here!'"

She said she and her companion made their way through the plane to the front entrance and jumped about six feet to the

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)



SURVIVOR: Richard Ojakangas, 40, of Duluth, Minn., recounts for newsmen in Chicago's Resurrection Hospital, Wednesday night how he survived the Wednesday evening crash of a North Central Airlines plane at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. Ojakangas, an assistant professor of geology at the University of Minnesota took his 13-year-old son by the hand and escaped through a screen of smoke and flames. (AP Wirephoto)

GROUNDED: Tail section of North Central Airlines DC-9 is silhouetted

against fire department lights at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport Wednesday night following crash and fire. Plane clipped tail of

taxis Delta 880 jet, crashed, and exploded into flames, claiming 9 lives of 45 aboard. (AP Wirephoto)

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THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

Apollo As The End To A Beginning

Apollo 17's successful splashdown must stir a kindred thought in the minds of Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, two men whose official positions in American life almost compel them to display outer differences.

Each being a keen student of history, probably causes them to ponder how great advances have come about in an atmosphere varying from indifference to distrust, and how frequently the achievement has had to wait upon history for its rightful assessment.

In the case of the Apollo program an even stronger hostility prevails.

Starting at the midpoint of LBJ's full term in the Presidency and continuing through Nixon's first four years, our space program has faced the argument that why should Uncle Sam spend his resources to probe the infinite when he has so many unresolved questions on earth to meet.

In simpler language, the argument says cancel the billions on space and give it to the schools, the poor, the local governments, medicine, mass transit, ecology, any special interest group one can conjure up.

There is an instant appeal to the old proverb of a bird in the hand being worth two in the bush and nobody can dispute the world has a handful of earthborne difficulties badly in need of sorting out. Nor does anyone quarrel with the home-maker who believes the house should be tidied up before the family takes off on a vacation.

The only reservation to be drawn is that in the 40 years since the New Deal was voted into office, Uncle Sam has spent several trillions on those problems and they are no nearer to solution than when Congress passed the first appropriation. If anything, the money lavished upon them seems merely to perpetuate them. Unless Congress re-threads the purse-strings, the space program will continue, not to the moon but in Skylab and other projects to test man's ability to function under conditions more critical than earth's natural satellite presents.

This timetable is certain to strengthen the clamor which in effect says what tangible good does the space program produce. This is difficult to square off, except to

Endless Addictions

Chances are good for at least one member of every household being an addict, not necessarily addicted to drugs or alcohol, which capture most of the addiction headlines.

For good reason, of course. Drug and alcohol addiction are responsible for a large number of crimes, auto accidents, divorces and other ills affecting a large segment of society.

Other forms of addiction also take a toll. Compulsive gamblers have been estimated by Gamblers Anonymous to number 10 million Americans. In addition to the well known effects of broken homes, indebtedness and lost jobs, the compulsive gambler also contributes directly

Federal Assistance Revised

Washington has begun to change its frequently stated wish to contribute directly somehow to the reduction of property taxes levied by state and local governments. That end remains a goal of the Nixon administration, but the mechanics for accomplishing it are changing.

Months ago the Administration started backing away from the concept of a value

pause for a moment to consider that over half of today's technology was nonexistent when John F. Kennedy put the program into high gear 12 years ago. The research to build a missile to put a man on the moon is a keystone in that development.

Looking back at the record, as LBJ and Nixon most likely are doing, the evolution of the U.S. itself came about in the same mental haze.

Ferdinand and Isabella financed Columbus to find a new route to the Orient, not to discover a New World; and when after five voyages failed to find that passage, his sponsors and his creditors threw the great navigator into a debtor's prison.

Many Americans soundly berated Thomas Jefferson for buying the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon for \$15 million dollars. The Emperor actually received only three-quarters of the sum. The other \$3.75 million went to U.S. citizens pressing claims against France for pirating American vessels on the high seas.

Back in 1803 neither Jefferson nor his Congressional allies knew much about a land mass stretching from New Orleans to Montana. Their interest at the time lay strictly in liquidating foreign claims to real estate bordering on the Mississippi river.

William H. Seward, the Secretary of State under Lincoln and Andrew Johnson, had his sanity publicly questioned in negotiating the purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million in 1867.

His detractors alternated their description of paying slightly under two pennies per acre as Seward's icebox and Seward's Folly.

As with Jefferson before him, Seward had no idea of the territory's immense natural wealth, but he thought it a good move to shove an expansionist minded Czarist government back west from the Bering Strait.

Not all ventures in national or international affairs turn out so well. Many turn a cropper.

The point is that the U.S. has developed because somebody at various intervals believed a gamble might pay off.

The space program already has amply demonstrated its worth. Keeping it going will pay even greater dividends later on.

and indirectly to crime.

One estimate is 70 percent of those convicted of grand larceny are compulsive gamblers. Many other forms of addiction exist, with less hostile consequences. Smoking is a form of addiction for many, as are various other forms of compulsive behavior.

Excessive eating or working or over indulging in recreational activities are other compulsions which qualify as forms of addiction. Much has been said about the American infatuation with the automobile, which could be regarded as a form of addiction.

Compulsive habits are easily formed; breaking them is the difficult part.

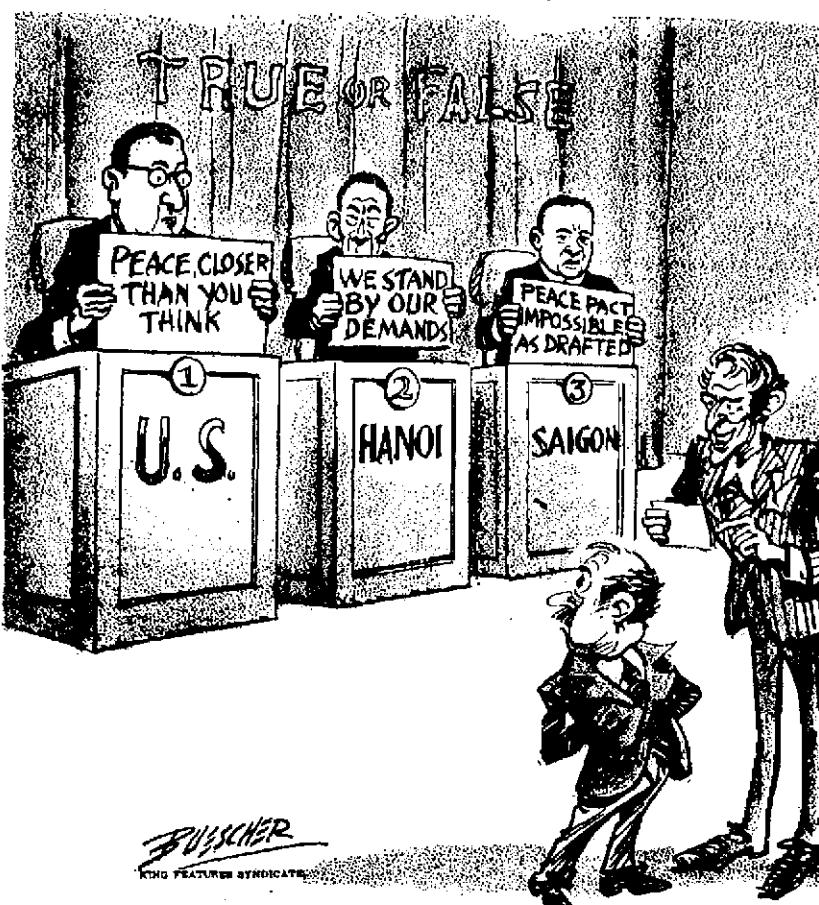
added tax, which is little more than a national sales tax. VAT had been mentioned prominently earlier as one possible solution.

Efforts to find some other form of direct assistance to reduce property taxes also are cooling, although the Administration still says it wants to find a way of relieving the elderly of some of the tax load.

A more circuitous approach to providing assistance to state and local governments is now under way. Revenue sharing is one of these. The initial checks sent out to more than 30,000 government units under this program have produced widely differing views at the local level.

From one community which returned its check, saying it did not need the funds, to others which are applying at least part of the money to provide tax relief, local officials are demonstrating independent judgment in spending their allotments. That is what Washington intended, no strings attached.

Increased federal aid to education is another plan seriously considered to provide property tax relief. In both cases, revenue sharing and educational assistance, the pressure will be on local tax bodies to accomplish more with their new revenue than simply inflate budgets.



Bruce Biossat

Trade Trend Can Be Nixon Misstep

WASHINGTON (NEA) — When you say "international economics," it doesn't sound like a real grabber for many Americans. But a lot of them are clearly affected by what's going on in that field.

The uncertainties arise, it is suggested, from the fact that the United States no longer dominates world economics, that rising competition from Japan and Western Europe have created a new flux threatening to stability.

The probability nevertheless is that most big trading powers simply will move to a way to live with uncertainty. Brookings specialists seemed to agree with the proposition that, for all its loss of dominance, America is no "helpless giant" and can still, if it only will, develop strong new leads in this field.

The compulsions toward the continued growth of international trade appear great.

His overtures to China and the Soviet Union are widely hailed for their hopeful effect upon security, but those countries responded in considerable part because they want more trade with the United States.

In a discussion at Brookings Institution, top research organization, one specialist suggested the notion that Mr. Nixon probably could not sustain his progress in the foreign field without getting heavily into economics. The implicit argument here is that, once diplomatic and military tensions are eased, trade is the big issue.

Japan may have been slow to lower its trade barriers while building its exports, but a continuing trend seems inevitable. It is almost wholly dependent upon foreign sources of supply for everything it does industrially.

Western Europe may, with its expanded Common Market and enlarged internal trading area, look today like an increasing exclusionary trading bloc. But its component nations are considerably troubled that America might leap beyond them and, to their envy, develop far broader trade ties with the Soviet Union.

Jeffrey Heller

Money Won't Buy Good Schools



It is one of the curiosities of American civilization that so many vast national issues are constantly being fought out, in all places, our elementary schools — from racial integration to the relationship between church and state, and from centralization versus decentralization to the economic implications of the Fourteenth Amendment.

For education is the real religion of America. In academic-rural Hanover, N.H., the local churches are only modestly attended. But the local schoolboard meetings are invariably packed to the rafters, the town's streets lined with the parked cars of people in from the countryside, the meeting itself often producing shouting matches and always mirroring every division in the local community.

By and large in this small town the issue at stake is "permissiveness" versus "discipline," or "progressive" versus "traditional" classroom practice. The local teachers are immensely able, but they

often have the most gradable aims: the liberation of the child's personality, the inculcation of self-reliance or love for mankind, a taste for original thinking, and so on, in the pursuit of which goals they sometimes omit to teach the multiplication tables or spelling.

But the notable thing is how they take all of existence as their province, really believe, or say they believe, that these vast designs can be accomplished during the hectic few hours they have a child under their control, or semi-control.

And in megalopolitan New York City, when the most recent reading tests showed that once again, alas! the pupils' scores had markedly declined, politicians and educational bureaucrats put on a passable imitation of the agony in the garden, and the New York Times reached once again for the universal solution: spend more money on the schools.

For make no mistake about it, Americans really do believe that education can heal the rifts in society, uplift the impoverished and the culturally bereft, produce individual success at the same time as generating individual good.

And somehow this faith persists despite demonstrations — of which Christopher Jencks' celebrated book is only the latest — that education can do none of these things.

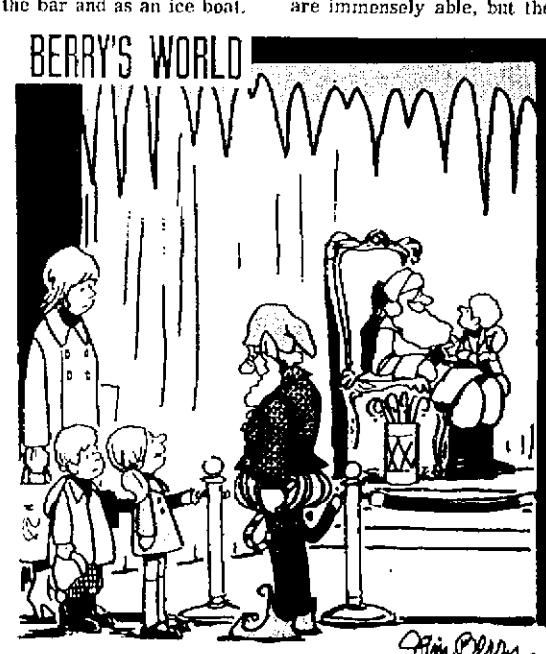
Income simply does not correlate closely with educational attainment. Education does not tend to foster equality — rather the reverse, in fact. The development of cognitive skills has more to do with cultural background than any other factor. What a child accomplishes in school is almost entirely dependent on the talents (mostly inherited) and the motivation he shows up with in grade one. Integration does not significantly improve the academic performance of black students, and it does not improve race relations.

U.S. Income Rises In November

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government says personal income rose \$8.7 billion in November after a revised October increase of \$17 billion.

The Commerce Department said Wednesday that the November increase raised the annual personal income rate to \$92.5 billion on a seasonally adjusted basis.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis, which compiled the figures, said the October increase was double November's because Social Security benefits were stepped up 20 percent in October. Without that boost, the October figure was \$9 billion, \$300 million more than November.



"Yes, I was here last week, too. I'm kind of a Santa groupie!"

THE HERALD-PRESS

ST. JOSEPH, MICH. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1972

Twin City
Highlights

Court Ruling May End BH Pension Dispute

BY BRANDON BROWN

Staff Writer

Judge Chester J. Byrns of Berrien circuit court is expected to rule at 10 a.m. Friday on the amount of deficit, if any, in the Benton Harbor police-fire pension fund and how the city and pension board must pay it off.

His ruling is expected to end a class-action suit begun in 1969 by city police and firemen against the city and pension board. Police and firemen claim the defendants first erroneously applied city charter provisions on pensions

and underpaid pensioners; and because of the error, left the pension fund with a deficit in violation of the 1963 Michigan Constitution.

The first count in the suit was decided in 1970 when Judge Byrns ruled the city must revise its method of computing benefits. The second count is expected to end with the judge's ruling Friday.

In trial of Count II before Judge Byrns Wednesday, Thomas G. Brand, of A.S. Hansen, Inc., the Chicago actuary firm hired by city pension boards in 1967, testified. The ruling did not require

the deficit in the police-fire pension fund is \$3.4 million as of June 30, 1972.

It represents money not paid to the fund by defendants but which will be due and owing city police and firemen on their retirement sometime in the future.

Brand's testimony on the deficit was undisputed.

He further testified that of the \$3.4 million, \$656,000 was created by Judge Byrns' 1970 ruling in Count I, which reinterpreted the method of computing police-fire pensions. The ruling did not require

retroactive boosts in retirement pay, but the city voluntarily awarded them to retired police and firemen.

The pension board also modified its method of computing pension for all policemen and firemen, active and retired.

The second point in Wednesday's trial was setting out possible methods for the city and pension board to make up the deficit.

The defendants' offer was to meet pension fund annual payroll of \$113,000 a year. The city would pay pensions annually from a 1-mill tax producing \$68,000 and by tapping the city general fund for \$45,000.

City Manager Don C. Stewart testified the city has been using this method the past four years.

And the city offered to amortize the \$656,000 debt represented by Judge Byrns' ruling in Count I by additional annual payments drawn from the city general fund.

The city's theory is that if it continues to pay current pensions through the pension fund annual payroll plan, the \$3.4 million deficit ultimately will be wiped out.

Stewart testified the police-fire pension plan started off in the red in 1945 because, in his opinion:

—Employees were credited for pension purposes with years of service before 1945, years they did not pay into the plan.

—This initial deficit was compounded by pension increases approved by city voters in 1954.

—Bad actuarial advice from the former advisor to the police-fire pension board.

—And added costs of Judge Byrns' ruling in Count I.

"It seems to me," Judge Byrns said near the end of trial Wednesday, "this tragedy began a long time ago, the usual result of shallow thinking ... and eventually the chickens came home to roost."

He said he sees his role as arriving at a plan for payment without destroying the city or injuring police and firemen, the plaintiffs in suit.

His options in arriving at that plan, he indicated, are "solely with the city's possible revenues in future years. That's it. That's all there is."

The alternative, he said, is firing police and firemen — an alternative unacceptable to those officers, according to their counsel, St. Joseph Atty. Thomas R. Fette. The city and pension board counsel is City Atty. Samuel Henderson.

Judge Byrns added during the case he has seen no signs of bad faith or dishonesty and "nothing culpable here on the part of the city itself or its own employees."

Elks Name Leadership Winners

Betty Benson, daughter of St. Joseph township Supervisor and Mrs. Orval L. Benson, and Mark Alt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alt, are the 1972 St. Joseph Elks Youth Leadership contest winners.

The youth leadership contest is conducted annually by the St. Joseph Lodge, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The announcement of the winners was made by Exalted Ruler Donald Yates.

Runners up were Pam Borgeson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Borgeson, and Claudine Seweyek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Seweyek.

Applicants are judged on the basis of contributions to school, church and community. The two winners were presented savings bonds and along with their parents were dinner guests of the St. Joseph Lodge recently. Chairmen of this year's contest were Eldon Wolting and Robert Hansen.

Miss Benson is a junior at Lakeshore High school; Alt is a senior at St. Joseph High school; Miss Borgeson is a senior at Lakeshore and Miss Seweyek is a junior at Lake Michigan Catholic High school.

DIRECT TALKS URGED
PHNOM PENH (AP) — A Cambodian source said today the United States has urged the Cambodian government to open direct, cease-fire negotiations with the insurgent forces of deposed Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

SJ Library Must Keep Waiting For Township Funds

Berrien County Library board will release \$19,000 in penal fine monies to St. Joseph Public Library board only after checking with the state library on the disputed fee charged St. Joseph Township families.

Philip Hadsell, president of the Berrien County Library board, which held up payment last October of St. Joseph Township's penal fine monies, says the county board is expected to release the funds after hearing St. Joseph Township does not object to the \$12 family charge. It is only a verbal agreement however.

St. Joseph city library board asked the township board for more financial assistance and when that fell through levied a family fee. Township residents, who were polled on how to pay for services said they preferred the users' pay system rather than adding even a fraction of a mill to the tax bill.

Representing the St. Joseph Library board at the meeting were John Paul Taylor, president; Louis Filstrup and Mrs. Nicholas Zitta. From St. Joseph Township was Andrew Schmidtman, Jr., chairman, Dr. Norman Roth and Mrs. John Hammond.

"We definitely want St.

Joseph to get that money," Hadsell said, "but we don't want to do it illegally."

At the meeting Monday night in Niles Public Library the Niles board heard St. Joseph township say it does not object to the \$12 family charge. It is only a verbal agreement however.

St. Joseph city library board asked the township board for more financial assistance and when that fell through levied a family fee. Township residents, who were polled on how to pay for services said they preferred the users' pay system rather than adding even a fraction of a mill to the tax bill.

Hadsell said the St. Joseph Library board is in violation of the contract it signed with the state library to provide free service under the same circumstances it serves St. Joseph residents.

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St. Joseph city library board asked the township board for more financial assistance and when that fell through levied a family fee. Township residents, who were polled on how to pay for services said they preferred the users' pay system rather than adding even a fraction of a mill to the tax bill.

Representing the St. Joseph Library board at the meeting were John Paul Taylor, president; Louis Filstrup and Mrs. Nicholas Zitta. From St. Joseph Township was Andrew Schmidtman, Jr., chairman, Dr. Norman Roth and Mrs. John Hammond.

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Joseph to get that money," Hadsell said, "but we don't want to do it illegally."

At the meeting Monday night in Niles Public Library the Niles board heard St. Joseph township say it does not object to the \$12 family charge. It is only a verbal agreement however.

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THE HERALD-PRESS

Area
Highlights

ST. JOSEPH, MICH. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1972



Cass College Labels Teacher Group's Charge 'Hypocritical'

BY LYLE SUMERIX
South Berrien Bureau

CASSOPOLIS — An attorney for the trustee board of Southwestern Michigan college labelled the filing of unfair labor practices charges against the board as "hypocritical" yesterday.

The charges were filed by the SMC Education association chapter which represents the college's instructors in the dispute over a new labor contract.

Atty. Thomas Combs of Kalamazoo, representing the college board, made his statement during the opening of a hearing into the charges before an examiner from the state Employment Relations

commission (MERC).

The hearing was recessed until Jan. 17-18, after the attorney representing the instructors concluded his presentation. Testimony from six witnesses dealt primarily with authenticity of 48 exhibits filed by the association and board.

The sessions are being held in the courthouse here.

Involved are accusations by the education association that the board refuses to bargain in good faith, declines to accept either fact-finding or mediation and will not negotiate the school calendar totally.

The charges were filed as negotiations over a new contract for this year broke down.

The old contract expired Aug. 15, but instructors have been reporting for work while a settlement is being sought.

Combs in his opening remarks before Hearing Officer Joseph Bixlar, Detroit, said the board had bargained in good faith but that it had met with "premeditated stalling tactics."

Combs said statements and actions by the SMC board were in reaction to charges by the education association.

Combs claimed that a smear campaign during the recent board election was an attempt to take over the college from within. He claimed the campaign was financed by the Michigan Education association, parent organization of the SMCEA, and by SMCEA.

Called as witnesses by the association's attorney, Lynnwood Beekman, Lansing, were Mrs. Barbara Hunziker, board secretary; Dr. Russell M. Owen, SMC president; David Briegel, SMC vice president and chief negotiator for the board; Dr. Fred Matthews, board president; Duane Hall, chief negotiator for the SMCEA; and James Boerma, of Three Rivers, MEA staff representative.

The hearing, when resumed Jan. 17, is scheduled for two days of proceedings at request of Combs. Combs told Bixlar he would need the time to present the board's side of the dispute.

Beekman concluded his presentation yesterday.

After the proceedings end, Bixlar will submit his findings and recommendations to the MERC, which will then rule on them. Either side has 20 days to file objections to the MERC findings before they are final. Either side may appeal to the appeals courts afterward.

Coloma Will Try Again On Movie

COLOMA — A Christmas movie originally scheduled to be shown free to Coloma and Watervliet area youngsters last Saturday will be presented at 2 p.m. this Saturday in the Coloma high school auditorium.

Bad weather forced postponement last week. The movie is sponsored by the Coloma Lions club and Coloma-Watervliet Paw Paw Lake Chamber of Commerce.

The Rodericks were found murdered in their home April 27, 1972.

Bryan is still undergoing testing at the center.

and Arleen Roderick of Pokagon road, and to a charge of manslaughter in the death of their unborn baby girl.

The Rodericks were found murdered in their home April 27, 1972.

Trial date for Bryan has twice been postponed, pending additional testing at the Forensic Psychiatric center in Ann Arbor. Outcome of the Jan. 11 hearing will determine whether another trial date is set.

Bryan is still undergoing testing at the center.

Sanity Hearing Jan. 11 In Slaying Of Cass Pair

CASSOPOLIS — A hearing to determine the mental competency of Robert Otto Bryan, 36, of St. Louis, Mo., to stand trial on charges of murder in the deaths of a young Cass county couple has been set for Jan. 11 at 2 p.m.

The hearing will be held here before Circuit Judge James Hoff.

Bryan, through Atty. Jerry O'Connor of Dowagiac, has entered a plea of innocent by reason of insanity to two charges of first degree murder in the stabbing deaths of Tim

and Arleen Roderick of Pokagon road, and to a charge of manslaughter in the death of their unborn baby girl.

The Rodericks were found murdered in their home April 27, 1972.

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Watervliet Keeps Watch On Building

WATERVLIET — Police today continued an around-the-clock watch on the American Legion building on Main street here to prevent looting and possible injury to persons walking near the structure.

Sidewalks have been roped off and closed to pedestrian traffic, said Chief Bartley Rose.

He said the surveillance would continue until the American Legion reaches decision on cleaning up or demolition of the building.

Six persons were injured Tuesday when the roof and upper south wall of the 74-year-old building collapsed through the roof of the neighboring Elite Bar, 366 Main street.

Three of the persons hurt

remained hospitalized this morning. Donald Hentschel, 42, of 563 Maple street, Watervliet, and Stanley Brown, 50, of 575 Riverside drive, Watervliet, both were reported in good condition at Watervliet Community hospital. Clarence Sands, 48, of 178 Morrison drive, Coloma, was reported in fair condition at Mercy hospital.

The only time the fire marshal's division would get involved, he said, would be in cases where there is public use of a building where structural safety had been questioned.

He said that prior to Tuesday he had not been requested to make an investigation on that building.

The Elite Bar was destroyed by falling bricks and debris. Three other businesses were housed on the street level of the Legion building. They remained closed today, according to Rose.

that there was no evidence of fire or explosion and that investigation of cases involving apparent structural deterioration are not made after the fact.

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State fire marshal at the Paw Paw post of the state police, Sgt. William Anderson, said that no further investigation is planned by his office. He said

LIFTED TO DRYDOCK: A crane of a Michigan City, Ind. firm, Tonn and Blank, was used to hoist the 44-foot, 18-ton motor-driven life saving Coast Guard launch out of the St. Joseph river Wednesday. The steel-hulled, almost unsinkable ship, will be refitted and repaired while in dry

Candidates For Morgue-- Teenage Drinking Drivers

DETROIT (AP) — If you're under 26, and driving at night near home after some Christmas holiday drinking — look out. You're a prime candidate for the morgue, according to the Automobile Club of Michigan.

The warning is based on an investigation of the 37 motorists involved in 18 fatal accidents last Christmas weekend.

"Michiganans should be aware that the young drinking driver represents the greatest danger to a safe and happy holiday," said Auto Club General Manager Fred Rehm.

"The biggest reason young drivers could become involved in traffic accidents and deaths during the Christmas holiday is the combination of their being both an experienced drinker and an inexperienced driver," Rehms explained.

According to the study, drivers 26 years and under were involved in 44 per cent of last year's Christmas highway deaths, and alcohol was a suspected factor in at least half the accidents.

Seventy per cent of the fatal accidents took place after dark, and a like percentage of the drivers were within 25 miles of home.

Although alcohol cannot be sold from 9 p.m. Christmas Eve until 7 a.m. Tuesday, Rehm estimates that eight of every 10 motorists will drink and then drive this weekend at private parties.

Under their "First A Friend, Then A Host" campaign, the club is urging partygivers to stop serving liquor early in the evening, end the party with a meal, and provide a car pool using non-drinking drivers.



THE BERRIEN BENCH: Berrien county's three circuit judges pose on the bench at swearing-in ceremonies Wednesday for two of them. Judge Chester J. Byrns (center) took an oath for his second six-year term, and Judge William S. White (left) was sworn in

for unexpired two years of original term of late Judge Karl Zick. Judge Julian Hughes is at right. The judges yesterday also re-elected Byrns to a third year as presiding judge of the circuit. (Staff photo).

Berrien Judges Sworn In; Byrns Gives Warning

BY BRANDON BROWN
Staff Writer

Two of Berrien county's three circuit judges were sworn to new terms in office before packed courtroom in the St. Joseph courthouse Wednesday.

Judge Chester J. Byrns took the oath of office for a second six-year term. Judge William S. White took the oath for a two-year term left as the result of the death Nov. 15, 1971, of the Berrien circuit's senior judge, Karl F. Zick.

Judge Julian Hughes, the circuit's third judge, has two years remaining in his term.

It also was announced Wednesday that Berrien circuit judges have re-elected Judge Byrns as presiding judge for 1973, believed an unprecedented third term.

Judge Byrns used the ceremony Wednesday as an opportunity to warn he and his colleagues will knock heads of those who use the courts ineptly, for political ambition or personal gain.

He also included a plea for better staff and facilities.

"Most of any criticism that this court may receive, it seems to me, comes not from the quality or the justness of our own work, but from a failure or from a personality defect or conflict somewhere before the matter is actually on the bench for

the circuit judge's disposition....

"Matters affecting the rights of individuals and the community should not be playthings for the politically ambitious, the inept, the lazy, the empire builder or the financially hungry who use the court not so much for the ends of justice as for their own personal goals.

"This court will settle for nothing less than the highest integrity, ability, promptness and respect. It will not suffer petty ambitions of others, nor will it excuse poor workmanship especially where the public good is concerned. It will not hesitate to publicly place responsibility and blame where it belongs nor will it allow inefficiency to be camouflaged. So also will it publicly credit those who contribute to the public good....

"A second major problem for a circuit judge is the lack of necessary and properly compensated personnel. When one remembers that the last word a man hears in the state's highest trial court when he loses his freedom, or his property, or all or part of his family is that of the circuit judge, the need for that judge having the best possible staff and facilities is obvious. Too much of our limited time is spent and has been spent in administrative work which should be devoted to the judicial function...."



dock in back of the National Guard armory said Chief Robert H. Woodward. While the 44-footer is the mainstay of the Coast Guard fleet in the summer time, its hull is not strong enough for ice breaking operations in the winter. (Photo by Coast Guardsman John Johnson)